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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named
Inventor : Benjamin Y.H. Liu et al.

Appln. No. : 10/071,273

Filed : February 7, 2002

For : AUTOMATED OPERATIONS OF
IMPACTORS

Docket No.: M419.12-0031

Group Art Unit: 1743

Examiner:

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING
SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, THIS

22 DAY OF November 2002
[Signature]
PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

The patents or publications listed on the enclosed PTO Form-1449 are submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97. Copies of the patents or publications cited are enclosed.

Many of the citations that are enclosed are not prior art to the present application, but are cited because they were included in the International Search Report. In the International Search Report German Publication DE 10028599 was cited, and in its place U.S. Patent No. 4,653,758 is enclosed. The publication, and the corresponding British Patent were both published in December 2000, which is more than one year before the filing of this application, but is substantially less than one year from the filing of the provisional application on which this case is based.

U.S. Publication No. 2001013244 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,431,014 that is enclosed. The U.S. Publication was published in August 2001, clearly less than one year before the filing of the present application.

U.S. Publication No. 2001029793, has two corresponding U.S. patents that are cited. Those patents are enclosed. The publication is less than one year from the filing date of this case. The filing dates of the U.S. patents should be considered.

German Publication No. DE 10149048 corresponds to two U.S. Publications, one of which is 2001013244, mentioned above, and the other of which was not published until June 2002, after the filing of this case. The German Publication was in July 2002.

British application 2,369,784 is enclosed. It was not published until June 2002, and corresponds to two U.S. Publications, and it should be noted that the British application 2,369,784 was based on U.S. application 09/733,108, filed December 8, 2000, and as to which the present application is a continuation-in-part.

Thus, it is believed that the only references stated in the International Search Report that are to be considered as prior art would be U.S. Patent No. 2,989,061, and 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), U.S. Patent Nos. 6,267,016 and 6,363,800.

LIST REFERENCES NOT SUBMITTED

Submitted herewith is a copy (with English translation as appropriate) of an Official Search Report of the European Patent Office in counterpart foreign application No. PCT/US02/03893 filed July 2, 2002.

TIME OF FILING

The information disclosure statement is being filed:

1. ___ with the application or within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

2. ___ after the time period specified in paragraph 1 above, but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R.

§ 1.311. Therefore, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), submitted herewith is:

(check either A or B below)

- A. ___ a statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).
- B. ___ the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c).

3. ___ after the mailing date of either a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee. Therefore, Applicant petitions for consideration and submits herewith:
- A. a statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e);
 - B. the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

STATEMENT

(only used if No. 2(A) or No. 3 above is checked)

The person(s) signing below certify

(check appropriate paragraph)

~~_____ that each item of information contained in this Information~~
____ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

OR

____ that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

METHOD OF PAYMENT

___ No fee is required.

___ Attached is a check in the amount of \$___.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

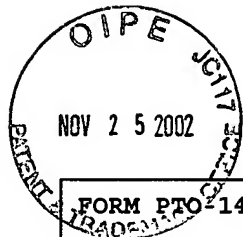
Respectfully submitted,

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FORM PTO-1449

Atty. Docket No.:
M419.12-0031Appl. No.:
10/071,273LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR
APPLICANT'S INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

First Named Inventor:

Benjamin Y.H. Liu

Filing Date

Group Art:

February 7, 2002

1743

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
AA	2,989,061	06/1961	D.P. Winkler	134	140	
AB	4,523,990	06/1995	Duyckinck	209	138	
AC	6,267,016	07/2001	Call et al.	73	863.22	
AD	0013244 A1 ✓	08/2001	Marple et al.	73	12.08	
AE	0029793 A1 ✓	10/2001	Moler et al.	73	863.22	
AF	6,363,800	04/2002	Call et al.	73	863.22	
AG	0081748	06/2002	Roberts et al.	436	174	
AH	6,431,014	08/2002	Liu et al.	73	863.22	
AI	6,453,758	09/2002	Marple et al.	73	863.22	
AJ						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document No.	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes No
AK	GB 2 369 784	06/2002	Great Britain			X
AL	DE 10149048	07/2002	Germany			X
AM	DE 10028599	12/2000	Germany			X
AN	JP 56076033 A	06/1981	Japan			X

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AO	
AP	
AQ	

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.